

However, if the new roadway ditch were at a lower elevation than the existing roadway ditch, then additional impacts to the adjacent wetlands would need to be determined.

The location and placement of equalizer pipes in wetlands was discussed. Cathy Brittingham noted that all pipes in jurisdictional wetlands and streams in CAMA counties must be buried 1 foot below the stream bed or natural ground elevation. Based on this information it was noted that in most cases a 30 inch pipe would be the smallest size pipe that would be used for an equalizer pipe. Mike Bell asked how equalizer pipes locations were determined. Andrew Nottingham noted that they were placed in low areas in the wetlands, in loop areas of interchanges to maintain surface flow and where the wetlands were flat they were spaced approximately 200 meters apart depending on the situation.

It was noted that the ditches along existing US 70 were not considered to be streams.

It was noted that it is acceptable to place 2GI's (median drainage inlets) on equalizer pipes.

Andrew Nottingham noted that the bridge over the railroad and stream (Tributary to East Prong of Slocum Creek) at +/- station 42+00 -L- would be lengthened to span the buffer zone.

Andrew Nottingham noted that the length of the bridge over the East Prong of Slocum Creek and its associated wetland was set based on the length shown on the sketches in the memorandum to John Conforti from Ken Bureleson dated 4/21/2000. He also noted that the length of the bridge had been increased on the east end to span the buffer zone. No deck drains will be used directly over the surface water or buffer zones and they will be eliminated as much as possible over the wetlands. The proposed bridge length is 493.2 meters.

Andrew Nottingham noted that he would look at using a preformed scour hole at the outlet of the 400mm (15 inch) pipe left of station 14+50 -y3- on sheet 20.

On sheet 20 near station 75+70 -L- there is an existing ditch that drains through the buffer zone. The drainage plans call for a 750 mm (30 inch) pipe under the road in this location. Drainage from roadway ditches and the median discharge into this existing ditch approximately 30 feet outside of the buffer zone at this location. John Hennessy noted that drainage from the roadway needs to be treated prior to entering the existing ditch at this location.

The detour for -y3- (sheets 20 and 27) will impact wetlands and a determination will have to be made as to whether this will be considered a temporary or permanent impact.

The crossing at station 82+00 -L- sheets 21 and 22 was discussed. Andrew Nottingham noted that John Hennessy had verified that this crossing was not a stream but that it was a wetland during a field review on 6/5/2002. Mike Bell said he would concur with John Hennessy's determination. John Hennessy said he would prefer a longer pipe that